

## COST-EFFECTIVE LANDSCAPES

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### HOW WE CAN HELP YOU SAVE MONEY

In these uncertain financial times it is tempting to think that the only way forward is to maintain current business practices whilst trimming costs and output – however by taking a wider view and doing things a different way you could reap rewards. For example, within the landscape context if you bring us on board at an early stage we can, through a number of means, help short cut the planning process and hence reduce the overall project cost.

#### Strategic Planning Issues

As landscape professionals we're able to take a broad planning overview of site issues - typically we look from 'the outside in' rather than 'the inside out'. So we can often steer you towards an approach that would be favourably received by officers and members of the local planning authority. When successful this measured approach can significantly reduce the lengthy time it takes to achieve planning approval.

***We can assist you in speeding up the planning process.***

#### Conflicts with Trees

We have a unique combination of knowledge of arboriculture and awareness of landscape issues that enables us to offer you advice on the optimum site layout when trees are an issue.

*Case study: A client's housing scheme (prepared on advice from an arborist and an architect) was rejected at planning committee and dismissed at appeal on the basis of adverse impact on a major tree. We have reviewed the key landscape issues and recommended a minor re-position of the building away from the tree which looks likely to be approved on re-submission.*

***Trees and Buildings? We can help.***

#### Planting Design

At layout stage we are best placed to ensure that every scheme achieves a positive response from the planning authority for minimum outlay by placing carefully-selected species of trees and shrubs only in key locations. Our contact with nursery suppliers also allows us to identify low cost but visually impressive species thus ensuring a cost-effective scheme. Finally, we always aim to position trees to fully comply with NHBC Guidelines and hence avoid the need for deeper than normal foundations.

***'Right plant, right place' makes the right impression in a cost-effective manner.***

#### Invasive Weeds

Early assessment of the extent and location of weeds such as Japanese Knotweed means that the options for dealing with them can be discussed and agreed. In some cases treatment can be undertaken in time to allow full remediation prior to construction of the first building on site. If identified early enough in the land buying process the knowledge can even be used to negotiate the land price downwards to take account of the cost of remediation.

***We have many years' experience in identification, assessment and treatment of these weeds. Give us a call if you think you may have a problem.***